GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANAGA REJUVENATION
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5299
ANSWERED ON:06.04.2017
Water Shortage
Rai Shri Prem Das

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANAGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware of the acute water shortage in Leh; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken to improve water availability in upstream areas?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION
(DR. SANJEEV KUMAR BALYAN)

(a) & (b) Yes, Madam. Government of Jammu and Kashmir has reported that certain areas of Leh District are facing acute water shortage.

Water being a State subject, steps for distribution, conservation and efficient management of water resources including improvement of water availability are undertaken by the respective State Governments. In order to supplement the efforts of the State Governments, Central Government provides technical and financial assistance to State Governments through various schemes/programmes. Some of such initiatives taken by Central government in this regard are as follows:
The Igophey Irrigation Project benefitting Leh District (with Ultimate Irrigation Potential of 4373 hectare (ha.)) was included under Accelerated Irrigation benefits Programme (AIBP) during the year 2000-01. Cumulative Central Loan Assistance/Central Assistance of Rs. 9.63 crore was released to the project and it was completed in 2006-07.

Similarly, 5 Small and Medium Irrigation (SMI) schemes from Leh district with an estimated cost of Rs. 13.4147 crore and irrigation potential of 991.00 ha. were included under AIBP during 2013-14. So far Central Assistance of Rs. 6.289 crore has been released towards these schemes and an irrigation potential of 413.00 ha. has been created.

Earlier, 11 SMIs (at estimated cost Rs. 59.62 crore and irrigation potential of 4400 ha.) and 15 SMIs (at estimated cost of Rs. 46.84 crore and irrigation potential of 3831 ha.) from Kargil and Leh districts were included under AIBP in 2009-10 and 2008-09 respectively. So far central assistance of Rs. 47.510 crore was released and irrigation potential of 700 ha. was created in respect of 11 SMI schemes. Whereas in respect of 15 SMI schemes, central assistance of Rs. 41.92 crore was released and 10 schemes were completed.
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